

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 2, after line 3, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 3, lines 4-7, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

It is the objective of the invention to limit the risk of infection already in the preliminary stages by eliminating the infectious germs that have entered via the urethra — see drawing Ref. 4 — in the entry area of the bladder 3.

On page 3, lines 5-15, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

Thus, the main concept of the invention is to interrupt the movement of the germs to the ureters 2 directly into the bladder. In this manner, an ascending urinary tract

infection can be avoided already in preliminary stages, without treatment using medication via the regular path of the blood circulation system or removing the germs by rinsing the bladder using a catheter. An additional aspect that needs to be mentioned with traditional treatment methods for urinary tract infections is the fact that a treatment can be started only after the germs have been diagnosed. In most cases, a prophylactic early detection is missing at this stage.

On page 4, lines 1-5, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

It is the objective of the invention to bring together an active agent carrier with specific properties with a suitable active agent that can be inserted into the bladder space as the implant, necessarily with a string-shaped geometry 12, via the urethra with a sufficient depot capacity.

On page 5, lines 15-18, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

The active agent carrier - memory polymer:

In this context, the so-called "shape memory" synthetics, which have been developed by, and are commercially available from, Mnemoscience GmbH of Aachen, Germany, among others, may be used as the carrier.

On page 6, after line 5, please insert the following paragraphs and headings:

For a full understanding of the present invention, reference should now be made to the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments of the invention as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is an illustration showing a urinary bladder implant according to a first preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is an illustration showing a urinary bladder implant according to a second preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 3 is an illustration showing a urinary bladder implant according to a third preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a detailed view of a section of a bladder implant according to one embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 5 is a side view illustrating a preferred configuration of a bladder implant according to the invention.

Fig. 6 is a side view of a bladder implant in an expanded condition, according to the third embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 7 is a side view of the bladder implant of Fig. 6, prior to insertion.

Fig. 8 is a representational diagram of a woman showing portions of her anatomy.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

The preferred embodiments of the present invention will now be described with reference to Figs. 1-8 of the drawings.
Identical elements in the various figures are designated with the same reference numerals.

On page 11, after the last line, please insert the following paragraph:

There has thus been shown and described a novel bladder implant which fulfills all the objects and advantages sought therefor. Many changes, modifications, variations and other uses and applications of the subject invention will, however, become apparent to those skilled in the art after considering this specification and the accompanying drawings which disclose the preferred embodiments thereof. All such changes, modifications, variations and other uses and applications which do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention are deemed to be covered by the invention, which is to be limited only by the claims which follow.